

8 c) an inner reamer having an elongated body and proximal and distal ends,
9 the distal end having a rotatable reaming head and the proximal end having [connecting means for
10 connection] a first mechanism configured to connect to a drill, a portion of the body including
11 [engagement means for engagement] a second mechanism configured to engage with the proximal
12 end of the sleeve, the reamer being sized and shaped for insertion through [the] a bore of a [the]
13 housing adjacent to and in communication with [and] the hollow sleeve;

14 d) whereas the minimally invasive reaming assembly is configured to create
15 an entry portal into the canal of a bone and to provide a working channel in which a plurality of
16 reamers of graduated sizes are inserted for progressively reaming the canal of a bone.

REMARKS

The above amendments are being made in order to more clearly define the subject invention. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the Preliminary Amendment prior to examination of the application on the merits.

Respectfully Submitted,

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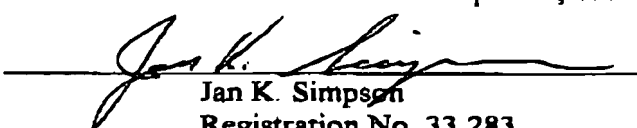
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by facsimile to Examiner Shai at the United States Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile number 703-308-2708 on April 30, 1999.


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